

Issue NE-CW3902, released September 30, 2002, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541, e-mail at [nass-ne@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ne@nass.usda.gov), Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending September 29, 2002, corn and soybean harvest progressed at a slower than normal pace as producers waited for crops to dry down in the field, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. The first frost of the fall season was recorded in some western and northern counties. Producer activities included beginning fall harvest and livestock care.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Access weekly reports back to 1947 and current county specific comments at:  
<http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/cropwthr.htm>

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures averaged from two degrees above normals to six degrees below normals across the state. Precipitation was very light and mostly limited to the eastern third of the state. Amounts received ranged from traces to 0.46 inch.

**Field Crops Report:** All corn condition rated 34 percent good and excellent, well below the average of 63. Irrigated corn condition rated 54 percent good and excellent, below the five-year average of 75. Dryland corn rated 5 percent good and excellent, far below the average of 47. Eighty-four percent was mature, near last year at 83 and average at 86. Harvest for grain or seed progressed to 17 percent combined to date, ahead of last year at 11 but behind average at 20.

Soybean condition rated 25 percent very poor, 27 poor, 25 fair, 20 good, and 3 excellent, well below last year and average.

Leaves were dropping on 86 percent of the acreage, near last year at 84 and average at 90. Harvest was 16 percent complete, near last year at 13 and average at 18.

Sorghum condition rated 40 percent very poor, 30 poor, 24 fair, and 6 good, well below last year and average. Fields were turning color on 96 percent of the acreage, behind last year at 98 and average at 99. Seventy-five percent was mature, behind last year at 76 and average at 79. Twenty-five percent had been harvested, ahead of last year at 9 and average at 17.

Dry bean harvest was 61 percent completed, behind last year at 66 and average at 76. Freezing temperatures caused a quality concern in late maturing fields.

Proso millet harvest was 66 percent combined to date, behind 81 percent last year.

Wheat seeding progressed to 82 percent sown to date, ahead of last year at 76 and average at 79 percent. Fifty-three percent had emerged, ahead of last year at 42 and average at 46.

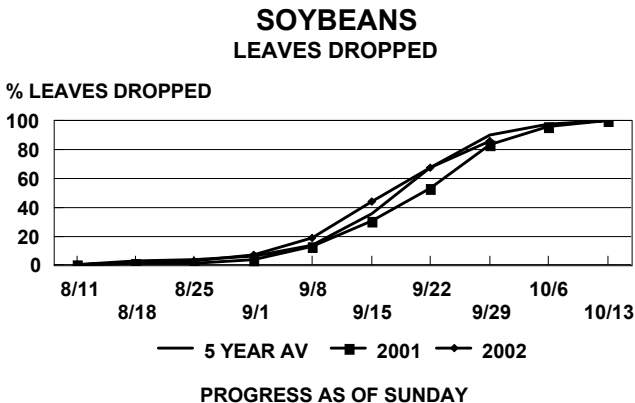
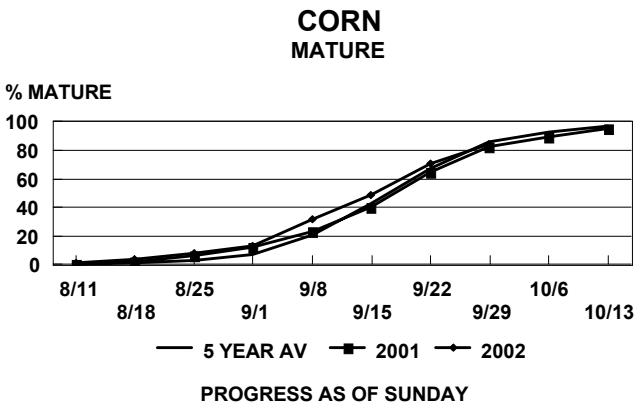
Alfalfa condition rated 31 percent very poor, 24 poor, 21 fair, and 24 good, well below last year and average. Where growth permitted a fourth cutting, those activities were 75 percent complete, ahead of last year at 69 and average at 61.

**Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions rated 53 percent very poor, 32 poor, 11 fair, and 4 good, well below average. Cattle are receiving supplemental feed and being moved to stalks as fields become available.

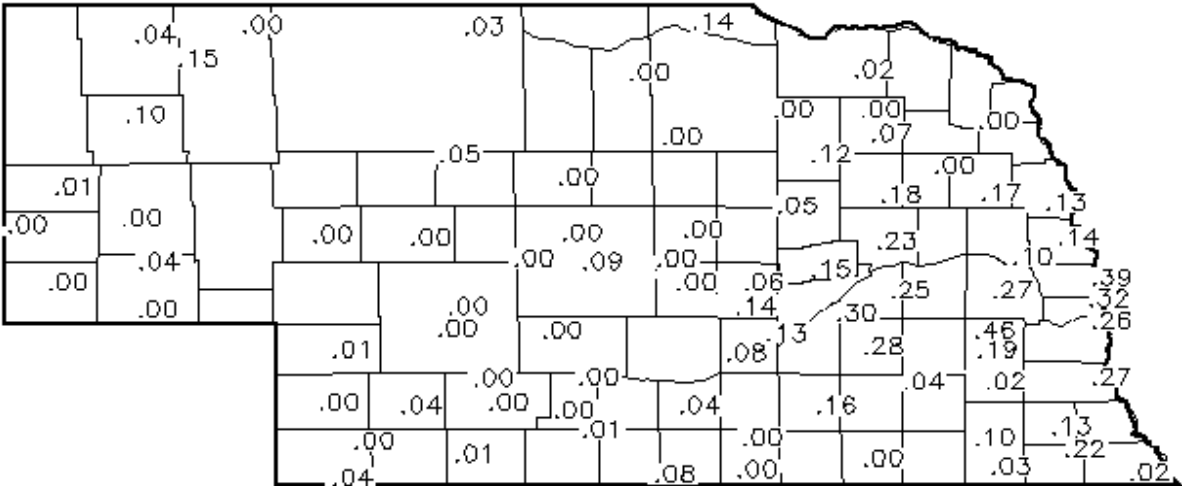
Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of September 29, 2002

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Mature	45	80	84	85	89	60	93	97	84	70	83	86
% Corn Harvested	1	10	8	17	19	6	19	34	17	10	11	20
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	<sup>1</sup>	86	89	90	87	86	89	81	86	68	84	90
% Soybeans Harvested	<sup>1</sup>	10	15	14	17	13	21	16	16	6	13	18
% Sorghum Turning Color	80	80	100	100	97	89	95	98	96	90	98	99
% Sorghum Mature	40	59	66	64	77	60	79	84	75	63	76	79
% Sorghum Harvested	0	0	5	5	24	1	30	27	25	10	9	17
% Wheat Seeded	95	80	71	92	63	80	69	55	82	61	76	79
% Wheat Emerged	82	50	25	55	14	39	26	8	53	31	42	46
% Alfalfa 4th Cutting	30	67	83	80	87	93	89	59	75	63	69	61
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	6.9	6.1	5.8	6.3	6.4	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.6	6.0	5.5
Topsoil Moisture												
- % Very short	28	14	12	40	28	58	57	58	32	39	6	17
- % Short	39	34	56	60	42	24	25	32	39	39	21	29
- % Adequate	33	52	32	0	29	18	18	10	29	22	69	51
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	3
Subsoil Moisture												
- % Very Short	67	46	28	57	61	71	89	77	59	68	11	23
- % Short	25	35	42	43	30	22	11	19	30	25	30	30
- % Adequate	8	19	30	0	9	7	0	4	11	7	58	46
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

<sup>1</sup> Data not available.



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending September 29, 2002



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - September 29, 2002

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.02	.03	.10	.06	.26	.03	.01	.13
Total since April 1	7.61	11.87	16.19	10.85	17.87	8.10	10.90	15.94
Normal since April 1	12.98	16.70	19.25	18.27	21.01	15.55	18.31	22.03
Total as % of normal	59%	71%	83%	59%	84%	52%	59%	72%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, September 29, 2002

Station		Temperature			
		Extremes		Average	Departure
		High	Low		
NW	Alliance	81	36	53	-2
	Scottsbluff	83	32	54	-2
	Sidney	83	35	54	-3
NC	Ainsworth	79	35	54	-4
	Arthur	78	37	52	-6
	O'Neill	76	31	53	-6
NE	Concord	73	34	54	-5
	Elgin	74	36	54	-5
	West Point	85	31	56	-5
C	Grand Island	85	36	59	-1
	Lexington	83	35	58	-2
	Ord	77	32	54	-5
EC	Lincoln	93	44	62	1
	Central City	87	34	57	-2
	Mead	93	37	60	-1
SW	Champion	85	32	56	-3
	North Platte	82	33	54	-4
	Curtis	83	34	57	-2
SC	Arapahoe	79	33	52	-6
	Minden	84	41	59	1
	Red Cloud	91	41	62	2
SE	Beatrice	95	43	63	1
	Clay Center	87	41	60	0
	Nemaha	94	45	65	2

Source: High Plains Climate Center.